

Health News Release

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Contact: Media inquiries: Allison Cook, Communications Office 360-236-4022

Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service 360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency Web site. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In March 2009 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Bradley L. Akridge** (CH00001829) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of possession of a controlled substance (cocaine) on more than one occasion, theft, and driving under the influence. He allegedly destroyed patient records less than five years after he stopped practicing as a chiropractor.

Clark County

In March the Health Care Assistant Program granted the application of **Rayme Elizondo** (HC60065480) and placed her license on probation for one year. She was convicted of furnishing alcohol to a visibly intoxicated person or person under 21 years of age, and driving under the influence of intoxicants. She must comply with terms and conditions on her license.

In March 2009 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of **John D. Meade** (CP60068234) and placed conditions on his license. In 2006 terms and conditions were placed against his registration to practice as a registered counselor. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his chemical dependency professional license.

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of **Kaitlyn Brooke Smeback** (NA60066796) and placed conditions against her registration. She entered into a

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deferred prosecution for driving under the influence – alcohol and hit and run. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In March 2009 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Program vacated the default order and entered into an agreed order against paramedic **Ronnie D. Stewart** (ES00106105). He was convicted of driving under the influence. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

Grant County

In January 2009 the Medical Commission reprimanded physician **David T. Earl** (MD00028611). He failed to keep adequate patient records

Grays Harbor County

In February 2009 the Medical Commission charged physician **Antoine D. Johnson** (MD00039048) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to meet the standard of care in treating patients and prescribing medications.

King County

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Twinnet N. Bowens** (NA00038499) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly tried to move two patients, roughly grabbing them by the arm.

In March 2009 the Board of Pharmacy amended the statement of charges against pharmacy technician **Benjamine M. Carpenter** (VA00067024). He allegedly gave himself a discount on the sale of a camera at his former place of employment and admitted to using marijuana at least three times a week.

In February 2009 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Mark T. Dang** (CH00033803) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations include billing for detailed examinations of patients without documenting the assessment of the patient's conditions or the plan for care and billing for adjustments without recording the services.

In January 2009 the Medical Commission withdrew the statement of charges against physician **Robert G. Haining** (MD00008934).

In March 2009 the Chiropractic Commission granted the application of chiropractor **Bradford Thomas Kremer** (CH60071550) and placed conditions against his license. He was convicted of criminal trespass of a residence. He must comply with the terms and conditions on his license.

In February 2009 the Medical Commission charged physician **Doane M. Rising** (MD00034275) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly had a sexual relationship with a patient and failed to keep adequate records of therapy sessions.

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In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Eilbarat Yaghoubi** (NC10096416) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly refused to shower a patient and failed to report that Department of Social and Health Services disqualified her from care of vulnerable adults.

Kitsap County

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Hollie M. Stevens** (NC10092719) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly entered into a personal relationship with a patient.

In March 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **James L. Vires** (RC60037917) and placed conditions against his registration. His application was previously denied because of a conviction of six counts of forgery. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

Lewis County

In January 2009 the Board of Pharmacy reinstated **Alvin Fitzgerald's** license (PH00021040).

Okanogan County

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Genesis Morales** (NA00199482) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly stole more than \$200 from a patient.

Pierce County

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Michelle A. Ford** (NA00056940) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly sold controlled substances to undercover police officers.

Snohomish County

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Denise M. Huff** (NC10083681) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly asked to borrow \$50 from a patient but withdrew \$300 from the patients account.

In January 2009 the Board of Pharmacy entered into an agreed order with pharmacy assistant **Jasper Townsend** (VB00069427). His urinallysis tested positive for marijuana. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

Spokane County

In March 2009 the Board of Pharmacy amended the statement of charges against **Northwest Health Systems, Inc** (CF00058494). It allegedly stores, repackages, and distributes samples to patients of a clinic without appropriate authorization.

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In March 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Eileen Anne Smith** (RC60002160) and placed conditions against her registration for three years. She was convicted of residential burglary, possession of a controlled substance, and driving under the influence. Smith must comply with terms and conditions set against her registrations. She is also known as Eileen A. Vernoy.

Stevens County

In March 2009 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Traci L. Somers** (RN00124387) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with previous terms and conditions set against her license.

Thurston County

In March 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Nickolas C. Root** (RC60068364) and placed conditions against his registration. He was convicted of no contact order violation, driving under the influence, two counts of assault during violation of protection order, malicious mischief, violation of a protection order, hit and run unattended, reckless driving, and assault on more than one occasion. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

Whatcom County

In January 2009 the Registered Counselor Program withdrew the statement of charges against **Leslie J. Gesner** (RC00059382).

In March 2009 the Nursing Commission terminated the order of probation against registered nurse **Melissa Kydd** (RN00106835).

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at http://www.doh.wa.gov for a healthy dose of information.